

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 93

Introduced by Assembly Member Bogh

August 30, 2005

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 93—Relative to California Economic Literacy Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 93, as introduced, Bogh. California Economic Literacy Week.

This measure would designate the week of October 24, 2005, through October 28, 2005, as California Economic Literacy Week, and would urge Californians to observe these days by working for a better understanding of our economic system.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Young people should understand our economic
2 system to perform effectively as workers, consumers, savers, and
3 citizens; and
4 WHEREAS, In turn, this state's economy depends on
5 economically informed and educated citizens to maintain its
6 competitive edge; and
7 WHEREAS, Unfortunately, adults and high school pupils do
8 not have a grasp of rudimentary economic concepts, according to
9 a recent Louis Harris poll surveying 1,000 adults and 1,000 high
10 school pupils nationwide; and
11 WHEREAS, While those polled were nearly unanimous in
12 their belief that basic economics should be taught in high school,
13 both pupils and adults lack a fundamental understanding of
14 scarcity, money, and inflation, with less than half of the
15 participants demonstrating knowledge of these concepts; and

1 WHEREAS, Legislation in the 1984–85 Regular Session
2 established a one-semester course in economics as a requirement
3 for graduation from high school; and

4 WHEREAS, New standards, adopted by the State Board of
5 Education in November 1988, include an economics strand
6 integrated into the social science curriculum, kindergarten
7 through grade 11, inclusive; and

8 WHEREAS, The California Council on Economic Education
9 works with the California State University system, other colleges
10 and universities and Centers for Economic Education to help
11 teachers implement new standards; and

12 WHEREAS, With the leadership of the California Council on
13 Economic Education, the State Board of Education adopted new
14 history social science standards that promote economic reasoning
15 and an understanding of the United States economy in a global
16 setting; and

17 WHEREAS, An understanding of economics helps pupils
18 view history not as a series of random events, but as the result of
19 decisions made by individuals; and

20 WHEREAS, These concepts help pupils evaluate major
21 decisions that will affect them for the rest of their lives, including
22 decisions relating to schooling, careers, and marriage; and

23 WHEREAS, California has made great progress in economic
24 education and is one of only 17 states that include an economics
25 course in the high school graduation requirements; and

26 WHEREAS, The adoption of the 1998 history social science
27 standards has resulted in economics playing a greater role in
28 classrooms from kindergarten to grade 12; now, therefore, be it

29 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
30 *thereof concurring*, That the week of October 24, 2005, through
31 October 28, 2005, be recognized as Economic Literacy Week in
32 this state, and urges Californians to observe these days by
33 working for a better understanding of our economic system; and
34 be it further

35 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and
36 transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate
37 distribution.

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